

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Keiichiro SAIKAWA et al. :  
Serial No. NEW : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**  
Filed March 12, 2004 : Attorney Docket No. 2004\_0401A  
COATING FINISHING METHOD :

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution, please amend the present application as follows: